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The BG News June 30, 2004

Bowling Green State University

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SPIDEY ARRIVES:
Second installment of
movie arrives this
week; **PAGE 7**

BGSU NEWS

Bowling Green State University

A daily independent student press

Wednesday
June 30, 2004

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VOLUME 98 ISSUE 142



Mike Metzger BG News

Campus gives mentor thanks

By Mandy Lind
STAFF REPORTER

Duane Whitmire, director of the Student Technology Center, will retire this month after serving Ohio's higher education community for over 34 years—the last 29 at the University.

Whitmire has held over 10 titles while at the University but says his favorite position was his last one, where he has served as director of the University's Student Technology Center.

The center, which is one of only 16 across the United States, has been around for four years but had its official grand opening in April 2003.

It offers students the opportunity for one-on-one tutoring sessions with other students, workshops throughout the year and online tutorials that are available 24 hours a day.

Under Whitmire's advisement the center has grown between 55 and 60 percent. In February 2003 they averaged 24 students a day but now serve at least 39 students per day.

Whitmire attributes the growth to his belief of putting student's first. Throughout his career he has been instrumental in fostering that idea around campus.

"He bleeds orange and brown," Whitmire's wife Diane said. "He is very much devoted to his job, and for the years he has been here, he has always made sure that students came first. That is one thing he is noted for."

Whitmire says one of his fondest memories at the University was inviting author Tom Connellan to campus.

"I was fortunate enough to get support from the President and the Provost's office at the time to bring Connellan, who wrote the book 'The Magic Kingdom', to campus," Whitmire said. "In essence what we were trying to get across to some folks on campus is that we should be more student-orientated and that we should see students as customers."

To Whitmire's surprise the event, which he thought would draw only a handful of people, attracted over a thousand listeners. He said he believes that moment helped University President Sidney Ribeau realize that students should be first.

Whitmire said he plans to return to the University's Student Technology Center to finish some grant writing and teach part-time in the computer science department.

WHITMIRE, PAGE 2

Coming to Town

Matt Clark
STAFF REPORTER

The University kicked off its 2004 Orientation and Registration (O-Reg) program last week, introducing oodles of program changes that exasperated entering freshman on their first day of college life.

"It was kind of a long day, but it was informative," O-Reg participant Kylee Munson said, her friend and fellow entering freshman Kristin Osborne nodding in agreement.

However, the welcome day these University entrants faced was a little shorter than what current University students remember because this year's entering freshmen took their placement tests online, finishing them before they even stepped foot on campus.

"It was nice that we didn't have to be here early to take tests," Munson said.

The tests were taken through the MyBGSU blackboard system, which allowed students to retake the tests quick-

ly if they wished.

"I liked it because you could take it three times," O-Reg participant Justin Bailey said, referring to the online version of the math placement test.

Bailey, Munson, and Osborne had no trouble completing the online testing, and all agreed that it was easy.

The extra time was not put to waste, however. O-Reg 2004 participants were introduced to longer, more personal academic meetings, an improved "Focus on

Campus Life" session, and several interest sessions available to both students and parents on their second day of O-Reg.

"All of the stuff that we've had in past years has been totally revamped and just made even better. Instead of having so many speakers...they're showing a lot more videos, which are more high paced... more believable in a way," Orientation Leader Katie Stanko said.

The "Focus on Campus Life" session was given a face-lift with new videos and monologues presented by the Orientation Leaders, students who lead a small group of O-Reg participants through the program.

About an hour long, the session was separated into different aspects of campus life, including campus involvement, diversity, wellness, and residence hall life.

Following a brief video featuring student testimonials shot on campus about one of those aspects of campus life, the Orientation Leaders each gave a monologue.

For instance, after the video on diversity, an Orientation Leader stood up in the theater and gave a true account, in the first person, of how one student handled gay/lesbian issues.

"It makes for a more realistic approach for freshmen who are currently coming in to the University," Brian Robinson, who has been an Orientation Leader for two years, said.

The feeling of realism was further enhanced by video interviews with real students shot on campus.

"They're not actor videos. These are people that are from Bowling Green that

O-REG, PAGE 2



Mike Metzger BG News

GETTING ACQUAINTED: Orientation Leaders; **FIRST ROW** From left: Christopher Powell, Greg Kohlireser, Noelle Visintainer, Melanie Krebs, Amy Colvin, Lissa Paine **BACK ROW:** Jared Wright, Nicole Schamp, Brian J. Robinson, Bernard Little.

Skoog says fireworks will please the town

Russ Zimmer
STAFF REPORTER

Everybody loves fireworks on the Fourth of July. However, they can be dangerous. Bowling Green residents need not worry; they can leave it to the professionals.

The Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce will present their annual fireworks show on Independence Day at dusk, or about 9:45 p.m.

The main viewing area will be at the intramural fields on campus. Elaine Skoog, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, is looking forward to the event.

"It draws a huge crowd," said Skoog.

People come not just from Bowling Green, but also the surrounding areas to view the fireworks. Skoog said she estimates at least a couple thousand people to view this year's fireworks.

FIREWORKS, PAGE 2

LOCAL BUSINESS OF THE WEEK

Food thrills Junction crowd

"Junction likes to be a 'Cheers' type of atmosphere."

WILL GAGNON, MANAGER

By Dana Yonke
STAFF REPORTER

Where is "Bowling Green's #1 place for food and fun? That is a difficult question to answer with so many fabulous restaurants and bars to choose from.

But Junction Bar and Grill on Main Street is the place for food and fun, as it says on the cover of their menu. According to Will Gagnon, University alumni and manager, some people do not realize Junction is a dual bar and restaurant facility.

"There is really good food at Junction," Gagnon said. "Most new students to Bowling Green don't even realize that we serve food. They think we are just a bar, when really it's all the same thing."

The restaurant menu offers a variety of food. Patrons can start the night off with a full dinner, and stick around to have fun at the bar.

The menu has appetizers such as spinach dip or quesadillas, and items such as the "Big Junction", a two-patty burger, or the "Sierra Fajitas". Other menu options include steaks, soups and salads.

The kitchen at Junction is open from 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Customers can also enjoy food outside on the rooftop patio.

"People like to go out and drink and eat outside and look at the great view of Main Street from the top of Junction," Gagnon said.

The bar at Junction is known for the fun times that happen there. During the summer and into the school year, the Wednesday "Country Night" theme is always very crowded. Country music is



Ben Swanger BG News

HAPPY HELPERS: Junction staff members say special events and the rooftop patio are big draws for downtown customers.

JUNCTION, PAGE 2

FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

THURSDAY



Sunny High: 86° Low: 68°

FRIDAY



T-Storms High: 86° Low: 67°

SATURDAY



T-Storms High: 81° Low: 64°

SUNDAY



Partly Cloudy High: 83° Low: 64°

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O-reg speeds up process

O-REG, FROM PAGE 1

are speaking about their own personal experiences. So it's just basically another way for the kids to say "Yeah my Orientation Leader was right, she's not the only one who thinks this, Orientation Leader Nicole Schamp said about the multiple angles students get from the session.

Several new interest sessions were also introduced this year. The hour-long sessions were available for both students and their parents.

"Interest sessions provide students and family members with information about topics that may impact them during their college career," Jodi Webb, Director of Orientation and First Year Programs, said.

The topics of the sessions ranged from

"Technology at Your Fingertips," to "Parent Transitions: What life will be like when your student leaves for BGSU," and "Sex in BG."

The sessions coincided with open houses at several student services around campus such as the Study Skills, Math, and Writer's labs.

The academic meetings, where students learn the ins and outs of their particular colleges and departments, were revamped as well. Instead of being one long lecture, the meetings broke out into special sessions.

Other traditional O-Reg sessions continued.

The dinner show continued this year, and featured a parody of a song from the motion picture musical "Grease." The parody was entitled: "Orientation Nights," and was performed by a group of Orientation Leaders.

Some O-Reg participants were displeased

with one continuing program, the welcome session.

"The welcome thing was way too long and way too boring and way too predictable," O-Reg participant Greg Nemes said.

The BG News asked several O-Reg participants if they felt more comfortable with college life after attending O-Reg.

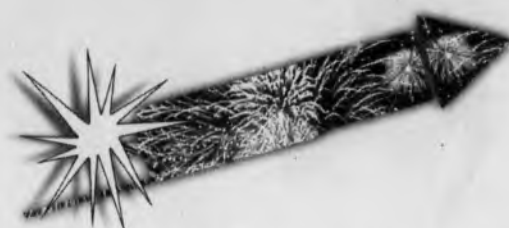
Bailey felt more comfortable, especially, he said, because of meeting new people.

O-Reg participant Jenny George agreed.

"I think so, especially because we met some people," she said, her new friend Matt Kelley nodding in agreement.

Entering freshman Kevin Siedlecki felt most comfortable with the idea of the new lifestyle introduced to him at O-Reg.

"I met new people and it's really exciting and I can't wait," he said.



City plans new display for 4th

FIREWORKS, FROM PAGE 2

The show will last approximately 20 minutes, and will be consistent instead of sporadic like other fireworks shows.

Melrose Pyrotechnics will put on the show. Wynn Cramer of Melrose says the show will feature many different kinds of fireworks, such as smiley faces, hearts, the planet Saturn and many other patterns.

Cramer expects to shoot off over 800 shells ranging in diameter from 2.5 to eight inches.

"It's a good sized show," Cramer said.

Spectators are asked to bring their own snacks or drinks to the show. It is recommended to show up an hour in advance to get a good spot and to meet up with friends. No alcoholic beverages or home fireworks/firecrackers will be permitted.

According to Skoog, people can expect the same level of intensity as in past years shows.

"I think the people will be pleased with [the show]," Skoog said.

She also points out that the planning and presenting of the fireworks is no easy task.

"It takes a lot of people from the community to make it work," Skoog said.

There will also be an open skate at the Ice Arena before the show from 7-9 pm, with a \$2 admission price.

Campus celebrates Whitmire

WHITMIRE, FROM PAGE 1

"I think the reason he is coming back is that he'll miss the interaction with his students," Diane said. Whitmire echoed his wife's statement.

"I get a charge out of being in the classroom," Whitmire said. "I teach introduction to computer science in which there are students that are not completely sure with computer technology. I get a charge out of seeing students in week one and then in week 15, hoping they have picked up something along the way."

Kim Fleshman, Student Technology Program coordinator, said she will miss Whitmire's presence.

"He was real easy to get along with and really easy to work with," Fleshman said. "He was always considerate of people's opinions."

University staff and students will hold an open retirement reception today from 3:00 - 5:00pm at the McFall Center Gallery on the second floor to show appreciation for Whitmire's service.

PLANE FUN



Mike Metzger BG News

LOCAL VISITOR: The Yankee Warrior, a B-25 airplane, sits patiently while waiting to take flight with the rest of the planes participating in Plane Fun. The event took place at the Wood County Airport this weekend.

Local restaurant contains many hidden treasures

JUNCTION, FROM PAGE 1

played upstairs the entire night, and drink specials are given for 24 oz. beers. Downstairs offers a more laid back atmosphere on Wednesday nights, with candles and martinis for those not interested in country. Wednesday starts the weekend off and Thursday through Saturday nights at Junction are a great place for people come and dance the night away.

Junction Bar and Grill has been in the area for 12 years, changing its name from Tuxedo Junction. Junction's upstairs is available to rent out for private

parties and student organizations. They also want the community to get involved so Fundraisers are available.

"Junction likes to be a 'Cheers' type of atmosphere," Gagnon said. They just want students to come in and hang out and like to get to know their customers. They even offer a VIP club. "VIP parties get in quickly and have no cover charge," said Gagnon. Upstairs Junction is for 18 and over and downstairs is 21 and over. There is a \$4.00 cover charge for those under 21, unless you are a member of the VIP club.

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Festival planning continues

Patrick Maynard
COPY CHIEF

The Black Swamp Festival 2004 committee met June 23 to address details of this year's event, slated for Sep. 10, 11 and 12.

Issues included volunteer staffing, fundraising, concessions, artist setup, logistics and budgeting.

Volunteers are culled from a mixed group, say organizers.

The festival is licensed as valid "community service" for probationary purposes, but this does not mean the committee has stopped looking for workers.

"[The court-mandated folks are] not a given. It's not unlimited," said logistics manager Alex Hann. "The [BGHS] football team is a great group for that."

Volunteer Roger Anderson also cited possible involvement by other Bowling Green High School athletes.

"[The basketball team] is a small group, and hockey is small too," Anderson said.

Even as volunteer lists are being formed, other details are essentially finished.

"The vendor contracts are all in, so all of that's going well," concessions manager Amy Fischer said. Meanwhile, smaller things are still being worked out—like whether to include road maps on already-costly brochures.

Visual arts supervisor Tom McLaughlin says the maps would be a welcome addition "...especially when people need to find out where Prospect and Church are."

Anderson agrees.

"I remember one year at the art festival a woman drove right into a booth," he said.

Organizers hope to avoid such incidents by centralizing information in easy-to-find locations. "The was no owner last year, and now there is one," said chairman Matt Karlovec regarding last year's information center site. Organizers hope to use the same site this year.

Dispersal of other information in the form of marketing starts long before summer, swelling as incoming freshmen receive information on the festival. Earlene Kilpatrick of Main Street Bowling Green asserted that the extra attention has paid off in past years.

"Parents are so saturated with

information that last year we actually had a flyer for students that we put in their bags," Kilpatrick said. "Then they come visit when they're not so saturated."

She said student involvement continues to grow. "This might be our fifth year with the freshman orientation program. Many of them bring their parents back through the years."

Other forms of marketing also keep expanding.

"We're going to expand our press release to cover more cities in Michigan and Ohio," said marketing advisor Kelli Kling. "Many folks drive a long way to see the bands, so..."

Anderson agreed that the event's growth relies partially on music. "There are people that will

travel a long way, depending on the band."

As the event has grown, many sponsors have stayed loyal. Large downtown sponsors this year include Grounds for Thought, Ben Franklin, and Time Warner Cable. Karlovec praised Skybank, which plays an instrumental role.

"Sky is our title sponsor, and provides the most support," he said. "Another of what you might call major funding comes from the Ohio Arts Council."

Along with Skybank and the other large sponsors, Treasurer Kay Baglione argued that "friends"—mid-sized donors—have been a vital element.

"Last year, the Friends of the Festival gave over \$8,000," Baglione said. "The campaign

has just begun and so far last year's folks have lived up to that."

Karlovec, said many such details work themselves out as the meetings become more frequent.

"It is a progressive schedule that we do," he said.

Experience generally will be an asset. Many committee members have been active for over a decade.

Assistant treasurer Leslie Oswald backs that idea.

"Once you get involved, you kind of stay involved," Oswald said.

Even as experience and festival size grow, Baglione said, simple necessities are occasionally improvised.

"We can always use another cash drawer."

Summer residents enjoy solitude



Will Clark BG News

QUIET TIMES: A student walks in front of the Conklin residence hall. The hall houses all on-campus summer students.

Matt Hawkins
STAFF REPORTER

The summertime is generally a time when students work, party and vacation for four months to get away from the school atmosphere of Bowling Green. But for some students, the summer months are simply a continuation of the school year.

Those students live in Conklin residence hall, which currently consists of 37 students who have all decided to stay on campus this summer and take classes among other things.

Sophomore Fleny Mercedes, who currently lives in Conklin, said living with a small group of people definitely has its advantages.

"I actually like it better than during the school year," Mercedes said. "We don't have a [resident advisor], so it's not like anybody's watching us."

While there is no active RA in charge, there is indeed an RA residing in Conklin.

Senior Rory Scarvelli, who is an RA

during the school year, said he has enjoyed living on campus this summer because of the smaller, quieter environment.

"You don't get to know as many people which kind of stinks, but it also gives you the opportunity to get to know everyone in the building better," Scarvelli said. "You see these people every day, where you might not see the same people everyday if you lived in a full building."

Scarvelli also said that being an RA has always allowed him to live by himself and this is the first time in a while that he had the chance to live with a roommate.

"This is my first roommate in two years and I was pretty lucky to get hooked up with this kid," he said. "He's a nice guy. I had forgotten what it's like living with a total stranger."

Another Conklin resident, sophomore Brian Roth said he has enjoyed the living situation except for the fact that there is not too much going on.

"It's not very noisy," Roth said.

"Sometimes it's a little too quiet."

The smaller, quieter atmosphere has been fine for Monique Theogene.

"It's a smaller community which I think is beneficial because you get to know the people around here a lot better," she said.

Mercedes said that a small environment has helped bring people a lot closer.

"Everyone knows everyone for the most part," Mercedes said.

However, Mercedes said the one negative about living on campus this summer has to do with the student union closing too early. Part of the union close at 5 p.m. on weekdays and are not open on the weekends, which does not allow her to take full advantage of her meal plan.

"It's not fair because I have to go out and buy my own food on the weekends, so what do I have a meal plan for?" Mercedes said. "We're college students and nobody has the money to be eating like that."

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QUOTEUNQUOTE

"Yeeeeeeee-haaaah!"

Veteran test pilot MIKE MELVILL, 63, who last week became the first human to enter space in a privately funded craft, shortly after completing his mission.

(New York Times)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

OPINION

Clinton calms the political storm

The presidential election is on the minds of several American citizens, and a familiar face has come back into the spotlight to distract us from the million dollar question — Bush or Kerry?

Bill Clinton's recently published autobiography, "My Life," is arguably the hottest book on the shelves today. It is currently the number one bestseller on Amazon.com.

Clinton has supplemented his book release with a book signing

tour, appearing at 18 book stores across the country in the span of a month.

Clinton's book is having a reverse effect on the political scene, as opposed to Michael Moore's latest film, "Fahrenheit 9/11." While Moore is stirring up political controversy, Clinton is calming the storm.

The contents of Clinton's book are not directly affecting politics, but rather the book serves as a deterrent to a seemingly endless

sea of pro-Bush and anti-Bush messages currently seen in the media.

Perhaps Clinton is the comic relief of the 2004 election.

The former president from Arkansas was our comic relief when he was in office, most notably during the sex scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

"My Life," which has sold nearly a million copies, is 957-pages long. The book includes

his personal account of his life during the Lewinsky scandal, and many people are very interested in knowing what he went through.

Clinton's account could be entirely accurate. It could be nothing but 957 pages of bold-faced lies. We aren't even that interested in reading the book. We are just happy that we can take a break from hearing about an election that is over four months away.

For us, the summer is too soon to be thinking about whether we want George W. Bush or John Kerry in office. Besides, most of us have already made up our minds.

Especially as college-aged students, we are not that interested in politics compared to middle-aged citizens. We would like to be more informed about news happening around the country, but since many cable news shows and newspaper edi-

torial pages are rife with election stories, it's difficult to express an interest.

The Michael Moores and Bill O'Reillys of the world will continue to act as lightning rods for political rhetoric and firestorm debates. Thankfully the Bill Clintons of the world cancel them out temporarily.

Of course, the media frenzy around Clinton's book won't last forever, so we will cherish this break from the political storm.

Curing the summertime blues



SHAUN HAYES

Opinion Columnist

For those of us left here in Bowling Green this summer, looking at the world around us surely inspires a question or two.

"Is it raining again?"

"Do I have West Nile virus?"

"Ack! Where did all these orange barrels come from?"

While all of these are certain to be questions pressing upon our adolescent minds, recently one question has been bothering me more than any other: "What do I do now?"

You see my friends, this last session your noble writer made the bold decision to take 12 credit hours. That's right, 12 credit hours stuffed into one six week session. I also work about 25 hours a week. And I write this column. Well, you get the point.

As you might have gathered, free time has been something extremely rare for me these last few weeks. I haven't been able to eat well. I haven't gotten enough sleep. I haven't been able to get in a good workout, so my love handles are getting flabby. It's not been a pretty picture.

However, with the first session over, I suddenly find myself with all sorts of free time on my hands.

So, first of all, I've decided to reestablish some old relationships. I've reinstated my once-stringent regimen of personal hygiene. I've managed to hit the gym a time or two. And, perhaps most importantly, I've dusted off my Playstation 2, which I've had to coldly ignore these last few weeks. It took some coaxing, but I'm back in video game heaven. I only had to promise it that we'd never fight again.

However, try as I might, I

"Perhaps the most amusing activity on campus is throwing pennies at students in the Business Administration Building."

haven't been able to fill these long hours spent in the stifling heat. "What," I began to wonder, "can I do next?"

Well friends, I've come up with some answers, and hopefully you can use some of the knowledge I've acquired to make your summer that much more enjoyable. So if you're reading this because you're bored, look no further.

There are several exciting things to do in Bowling Green itself. You could arm yourself with a net, some gloves and a rabies vaccination and settle the long-unanswered question of whether or not there truly are more squirrels in Bowling Green than people.

You could quench your thirst for body modification at any of Bowling Green's many tattoo distilleries. Send pictures home, and watch the fun ensue.

Since Dr. Ribeau seems to feel that his house isn't quite good enough, you could visit him at 632 Hillcrest Drive. Being a man of the people, I'm sure he'd be glad to invite you in. Maybe you could even have cookies! But if Dr. Ribeau isn't there, be sure to leave behind a picture of the inside of your house or apartment so he knows what it's like to live in real squalor. The horror!

Believe it or not, Bowling Green actually has a bike trail, so you could oil up the old chain and go for a spin. If that doesn't catch your fancy, you could ride your bike down to the bars at night. It's much quicker, and it sure makes the trip back home a lot more interesting.

But if the impossible should occur, and you should find yourself in Bowling Green with a

dearth of activities that grab your fancy, things here on campus can be a load of fun, too.

You could wander around by the Education Building and ask students there how they feel they are doing on the isolation vs. intimacy stage of their psychosocial development.

You could tour the unknown splendor of Jerome Library (it's nine floors tall!) — maybe you'll even find a book there to read.

But perhaps the most amusing activity on campus in the summer (or anytime, really) is to throw pennies (or even nickels if you're feeling generous) at the students in the Business Administration Building. Since these people are going to be the owners and CEOs of American companies, and it's a company's solemn duty to do anything (and I mean anything) in its power to make a profit, teaching these students the value of every last penny is an important duty we all can help teach.

Get them in the habit now, I say. That way, when they lay off all of their workers and move their factory to Mexico, there'll be no tears shed.

Hopefully a few of the things I've listed here sound amusing. Hopefully this article has helped everyone realize that there is more to summer than barbequing and alcoholing one's self into a sun-drenched frenzy.

Take some time this summer to pluck the luscious fruit Bowling Green has to offer. At the same time, maybe you can even help someone else. Dare to dream.

E-mail Shaun with comments at sahayes@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

We asked incoming freshmen why they chose to attend BGSU.



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"It's a good education school."



SARA PENTONY
ANTHONY WAYNE H.S.,
MARKETING

"It's close enough to home, but also far enough away."



MATT SCOTT
GREEN H.S.,
COMPUTER SCIENCE

"My friends told me to."

How to combat the rising price of stuff



MATT SUSSMAN

Opinion Editor

Before I start, I'd like to set the mood by playing a little Pink Floyd:

"Money, get away / Get a good job with good pay and you're okay / Money, it's a gas / Grab that cash with both hands and make a stash / New car, caviar, four star daydream / Think I'll buy me a football team."

That's right, kids — old school bands (pronounced "ohl-skoo") have been writing songs about money long before today's rappers rhymed about bling. Both generations share the same feeling — more money is good. Since nobody disagrees with rock stars, everyone wishes they had more money (pronounced "KIZ-ash").

Even when today's college student accumulates a bit more money, a dent in his or her wallet is

made when the price of stuff goes up. After all, nobody wants the money — they want the stuff that costs money. Maybe Pink Floyd should have written a song titled "Stuff."

Any time the price of stuff goes up, two messages are simultaneously thought by a 21-year-old: "Aw, why'd the price have to go up?" and "Well, I've come this far — might as well buy it anyways."

Case in point — This past spring there was a 15-cent increase in the price of 20-ounce bottled Pepsi products. (Coke products' prices on campus remained stagnant at "in your dreams, fancy pants.") What were we to do? We had the bottle of Sierra Mist on our tray and we were already at the cash register. Besides, you were curious to see what was under the cap to see if you've "won."

Gas prices are undoubtedly the most loathed price fluctuations in the country. There once was a time during our high school years where you could find unleaded gas for 99 cents a gallon. Last month the same octane fuel was commonly two bucks a gallon. Never mind that all this time gasoline was still cheaper by volume than bottled water — licensed drivers were (and still are) fuming that the price of gas bounces up and down more than a sorority girl's mood during Rush Week.

The dismal conclusion occurs in the middle of this column — the price of stuff goes up all the time, no matter what. The causality of price fluctuations in the market result from supply and demand curves which ... who am I kidding. I have absolutely no clue. Just take a boring economics course and

figure it out, if you dare.

All is not lost, and we are not doomed to piddle away our extra income as a result of the rising cost of stuff. (No, my idea isn't just clipping coupons that save you 30 cents on a box of Wheat Thins.) In fact, I contend that the system can be beat — yes, I'm being optimistic (I've heard from irate readers that it helps, so I decided to try it), but we can topple the economic system through two words: independent research.

"What," you ask, "we have to actually think?" It's a strange hypothesis, given that you college-aged students don't think as critically as you should, but especially for the sake of your bank account, you should use your brain — in case you forgot, it's that organ located in your skull (unless you're blonde, in which case it's those two equivalent growths on the front of your torso).

Using your brain, you can track the price of stuff over periods of time, and figure out when stuff is the

cheapest. Need an extreme example? No? Well too bad, you're getting one anyways.

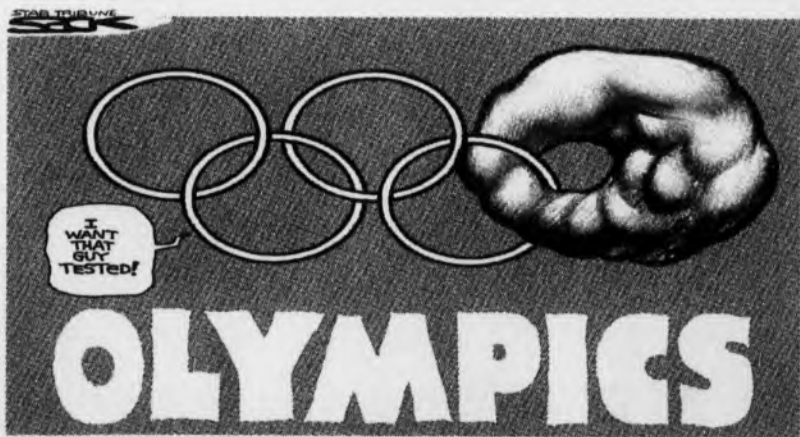
Reported by the L. A. Daily News, Richard Mahan did some "independent research" to determine when baseball slugger Barry Bonds would hit his next historic homerun. Mahan hopes one of those memorable longballs will be hit in the final series of the season — when Bonds' San Francisco Giants play the Los Angeles Dodgers. Our young thinker forked over \$25,000 (pronounced "TWUN-e-five-JEEZ") to purchase all seats in the right field pavilion on Oct. 1 and Oct. 3.

He did some thinkin': Bonds has 676 career homeruns as of Monday night. He bats left-handed and is a pull hitter — most of his homers will naturally land in the right field seats. He projected that Bonds could whack his 700th career homerun, or perhaps his 714th or 715th homerun (which would tie or surpass Babe Ruth's total). A sports aficionado could buy one of those memorable home run balls for as much as a half-million bucks. It's obviously a gamble, but it's a smart plan, and it's a creative approach by Mahan to buy himself more stuff.

Then again, keep complaining about how the price of Hot Pockets went up again. While you're still crying about it, the price will undoubtedly go up again. Meanwhile, I just saved a bunch of money by switching my car insurance to Geico.

See you on the dark side of the moon.

E-mail stuff to Matt at msussma@bgnet.bgsu.edu.



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Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 400 words, and guest columns should be between 600 and 800 words. These can be in response to a campus, local or national issue.

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TODAY'S BAD JOKE

Q: Did you hear the one about the clown that broke his arm?

A: It was humerus.

If we were in charge of picking this year's MLB All-Stars...

ADAM HRITZAK
MATT SUSSMAN

Self-Proclaimed Sports Experts

For the record, we aren't the ones who select this year's players for the 2004 MLB All-Star Game in Houston. That responsibility goes to the voting fans and last year's World Series managers — Jack McKeon and Joe Torre.

"What if it was up to us," we thought. Here are the 32 players — with at least one player per team — for each league, who we agreed are the most deserving to play in the game:

National League

Catchers: The two best offensive years by NL catchers probably belong to Atlanta's Johnny Estrada (.339 batting average, 44 RBIs) and LA's Paul Lo Duca (.323, 28), so we picked them over Jason Kendall and Mike Piazza — who, since he has played more as a first baseman this year, was not a catcher in our eyes.

First Basemen: It's hard to leave Albert Pujols off this list, so we didn't. We also picked Sean Casey of the Reds, who is batting a robust .352, and Philly's Jim Thome, who leads the country with 26 home runs. We considered Todd Helton and Lyle Overbay, but, well...we didn't pick them.

Second Basemen: There weren't many great players in this category, so we picked the two best overall players — Houston's Jeff Kent, who has 51 RBIs, and Florida's Luis Castillo,

who is always a top-of-the-line-up threat.

Third Basemen: St. Louis' Scott Rolen has 76 RBIs in 74 games, so it was easy to pick him, plus he has one of the best gloves in the game. As for LA's Adrian Beltre (.323 avg., 19 HRs, 52 RBIs) and the Cubs Aramis Ramirez (.325, 14, 54), their numbers made their case to be picked by us.

Shortstops: This category has never been very strong in recent years, and that hasn't changed. We went with Pittsburgh's "Jumpin'" Jack Wilson and the Cards Edgar Renteria, who we think are the two best overall shortstops in the game right now (Sorry Barry Larkin).

Outfielders: Since Sammy Sosa has been hurt a lot this year and Ken Griffey's batting average and RBI numbers aren't very impressive, we left them off this year for more deserving players. Obviously, Barry Bonds makes the cut — he has 19 home runs despite being walked over 100 times. Cincy's Adam Dunn has 22 home runs — most by any NL outfielder — so we chose him instead of Griffey. Lance Berkman of the Astros is having an outstanding year (.315, 16, 38). We had to select someone from the Rockies, so we picked Jeromy Burnitz, who has taken advantage of the thin Colorado air by hitting 16 homers and driving in 48 runs. Lastly, Bobby Abreu of the Phillies, Miguel Cabrera of the Marlins and Steve Finley of the Diamondbacks are all having great seasons at the plate and in the field, so they round out our

National League

C Paul Lo Duca, Dodgers
C Johnny Estrada, Braves
1B Albert Pujols, Cardinals
1B Jim Thome, Phillies
1B Sean Casey, Reds
2B Jeff Kent, Astros
2B Luis Castillo, Marlins
3B Scott Rolen, Cardinals
3B Adrian Beltre, Dodgers
3B Aramis Ramirez, Cubs
SS Jack Wilson, Pirates
SS Edgar Renteria, Cardinals
OF Barry Bonds, Giants
OF Lance Berkman, Astros
OF Bobby Abreu, Phillies
OF Adam Dunn, Reds
OF Jeromy Burnitz, Rockies
OF Miguel Cabrera, Marlins
OF Steve Finley, D-Backs
SP Carl Pavano, Marlins
SP Livan Hernandez, Expos
SP Carlos Zambrano, Cubs
SP Jason Schmidt, Giants
SP Roger Clemens, Astros
SP Tom Glavine, Mets
SP Ben Sheets, Brewers
SP Randy Johnson, D-Backs
RP Eric Gagne, Dodgers
RP Armando Benitez, Marlins
RP Danny Graves, Reds
RP Danny Kolb, Brewers
RP Trevor Hoffman, Padres

list of seven outfielders.

Starting Pitchers: The Mets Tom Glavine, Milwaukee's Ben Sheets, San Francisco's Jason Schmidt and the Cubs Carlos Zambrano have the four best ERAs in the NL, and we chose them all. We also chose two pitchers who have dipped into the fountain of youth: Roger Clemens, who found it in

American League

C Victor Martinez, Indians
C Ivan Rodriguez, Tigers
1B Paul Konerko, White Sox
1B Scott Hatteberg, Athletics
1B Ken Harvey, Royals
2B Alfonso Soriano, Rangers
2B Juan Uribe, White Sox
2B Ron Belliard, Indians
3B Melvin Mora, Orioles
3B Hank Blalock, Rangers
3B Alex Rodriguez, Yankees
SS Michael Young, Rangers
SS Miguel Tejada, Orioles
SS Carlos Guillen, Tigers
OF Vladimir Guerrero, Angels
OF Manny Ramirez, Red Sox
OF Matt Lawton, Indians
OF Carl Crawford, Devil Rays
OF Gary Sheffield, Yankees
OF Jose Guillen, Angels
OF Vernon Wells, Blue Jays
SP Mark Mulder, Athletics
SP Tim Lincecum, Mariners
SP Curt Schilling, Red Sox
SP Pedro Martinez, Red Sox
SP Javier Vazquez, Yankees
SP Kenny Rogers, Rangers
RP Joe Nathan, Twins
RP Mariano Rivera, Yankees
RP Francisco Cordero, Rangers
RP Eddie Guardado, Mariners
RP Francisco Rodriguez, Angels

Houston with a 10-2 record, and Arizona's Randy Johnson — his perfect game earlier this year didn't hurt his selection. Florida's Carl Pavano (9-2, 2.78 ERA) is having too good of a year to leave off this list. The sad, sad Expos have nobody worthy, but since the rule requires at least one player from each team, we chose Livan Hernandez, who has

Matt's Starting Lineups

American League

1. SS Jack Wilson
2. 2B Jeff Kent
3. LF Barry Bonds
4. 1B Jim Thome
5. 3B Scott Rolen
6. RF Lance Berkman
7. CF Bobby Abreu
8. C Johnny Estrada
9. P Randy Johnson

National League

1. 2B Alfonso Soriano
2. SS Miguel Tejada
3. C Ivan Rodriguez
4. RF Vladimir Guerrero
5. LF Manny Ramirez
6. 3B Melvin Mora
7. 1B Paul Konerko
8. CF Matt Lawton
9. P Mark Mulder

a modest ERA (3.47) and an admirable number of strikeouts (95).

Relief Pitchers: The Dodgers Eric Gagne has converted 81 straight saves, dating back to 2002. He has 18 this year, so we picked him along with other familiar closers. Cincy's Danny Graves (29 SV), Florida's Armando Benitez (25) and San Diego's Trevor Hoffman (17). We also picked Danny Kolb (a.k.a. "Who The Heck Is" Danny Kolb) from the Brewers, because he has only blown one save in 23 chances, and his ERA is an astounding 0.94.

American League

Catchers: Call us local boys,

Adam's Starting Lineups

American League

1. SS Edgar Renteria
2. 2B Jeff Kent
3. LF Barry Bonds
4. 1B Jim Thome
5. 3B Scott Rolen
6. RF Lance Berkman
7. CF Miguel Cabrera
8. C Paul Lo Duca
9. P Jason Schmidt

National League

1. 2B Alfonso Soriano
2. SS Miguel Tejada
3. RF Vladimir Guerrero
4. LF Manny Ramirez
5. CF Gary Sheffield
6. 1B Paul Konerko
7. SS Miguel Tejada
8. C Ivan Rodriguez
9. P Mark Mulder

but we agreed on Detroit's Ivan Rodriguez and Cleveland's Victor Martinez over the traditional pick, Jorge Posada. Both Rodriguez and Martinez have 10 home runs and 54 RBIs, and they are hitting .372 and .306, respectively.

First Basemen: No Jason Giambi, No Mike Sweeney and no Frank Thomas (because he is more of a DH). The White Sox Paul Konerko leads his counterparts with 19 home runs and 52 RBIs, and KC's Ken Harvey leads them with a surprising .335 batting average. Finally, Oakland's Scott Hatteberg (.319, 48 RBI) is

ALL-STAR, PAGE 6

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HOME RUN KING: The Phillies' Jim Thome is our unanimous selection for starting NL first baseman.

ALL-STARs, from PAGE 5

having a solid year among AL first basemen, so he made the cut.

Second Basemen: Texas' Alfonso Soriano is the obvious pick, along with two surprise names—Chicago's Juan Uribe (.294, 10, 33) and Cleveland's Ronnie Belliard (.312, 4, 31).

Third Basemen: There are realistically only three deserving candidates at all, and we picked all three: Melvin Mora, Hank Blalock and Alex Rodriguez.

Shortstops: Derek Jeter is having a sub-par year, and Nomar Garciaparra was hurt for the majority of the first half, so we chose the Orioles Miguel Tejada, who has 61 RBIs, the Rangers Michael Young (.327, 10, 45), who had the pressure of replacing A-Rod at shortstop, and Carlos Guillen, who has had a remarkable year for his new team, the Tigers.

Outfielders: Six words: Vladimir Guerrero, Vladimir

Guerrero, Vladimir Guerrero. Vlad's numbers are off the charts, and his Angels teammate Jose Guillen is having a great offensive year, along with having maybe the best outfield arm in baseball. Manny Ramirez couldn't be left off, and neither could the "Iron Chef," Gary Sheffield. Matt Lawton is having an impressive year at the dish for the Indians, which earned him a spot. Finally, we had to fill our Blue Jays and Devil Rays (although surprisingly hot right now) quotas, so we selected Vernon Wells, who is hitting .300, and Carl Crawford, who leads the league in stolen bases with 35.

Starting Pitchers: Some of our selections here are not at all a shock—Pedro Martinez, Curt Schilling, Tim Hudson and Mark Mulder—but Kenny Rogers, who stunned everyone by having a 10-2 record so far, might have you believe this list was compiled in 1995. We also couldn't keep our anti-Yankee

bias from choosing Javier Vazquez, because he is honestly having a good year (8-5, 3.38), so we picked him.

Relief Pitchers: Mariano Rivera is having another record year with 28 saves and a paper-thin 0.91 ERA. We also chose Joe Nathan (22 SV), the only Twin on the list, and the ex-Twin Eddie Guardado (14). Our lists were rounded out by two Franciscos—Texas' Francisco Cordero (23) and Anaheim's Francisco Rodriguez (1.11, 63 K's in 40.2 IP).

All statistics are accurate as of Sunday, June 28 and were gathered from ESPN.com.

Who do you think should be in the All-Star game? E-mail us who you think is more deserving.

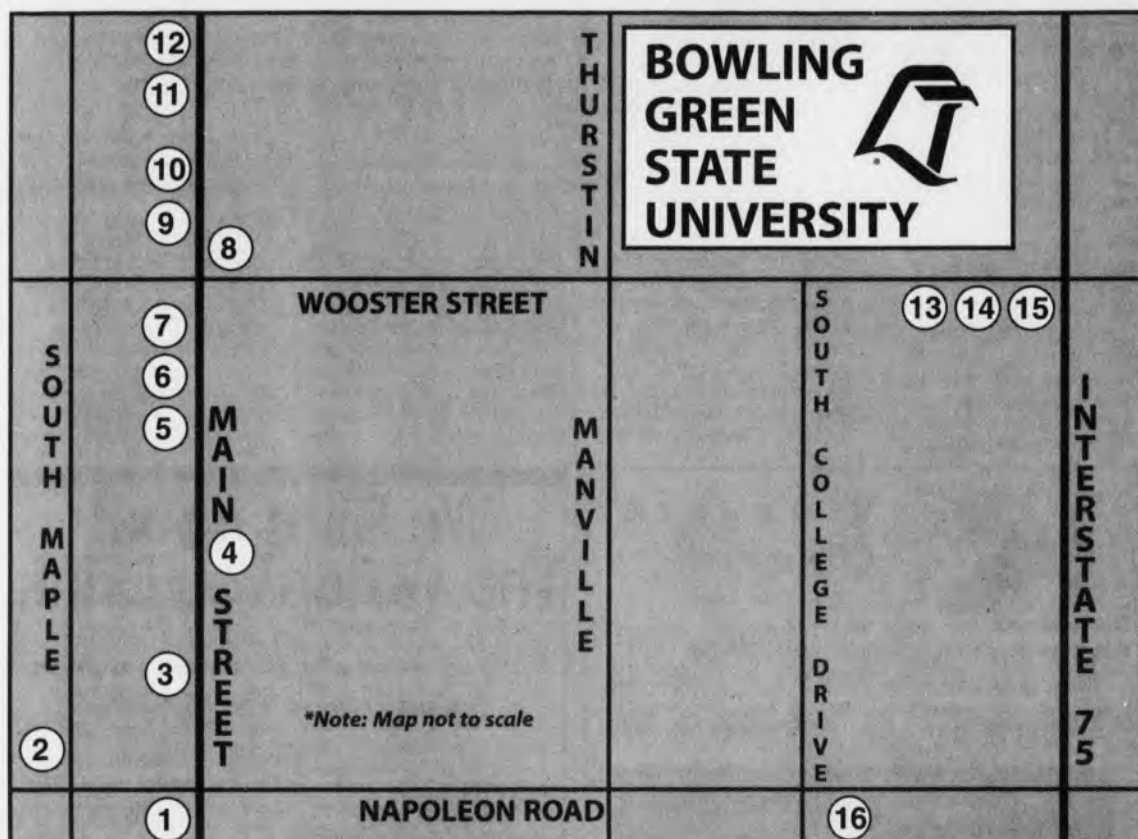
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OAKLAND ACE: We agree that the A's Mark Mulder is the most deserving to start the All-Star Game.

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ENTERTAINMENT

BG News Review

HERO RETURNS

SPIDER-MAN SEQUEL PROMISES MORE EXCITEMENT



By Michael Siebenaler
STAFF REVIEWER

Tobey Maguire returns as Peter Parker, a.k.a. Spider-Man, in "Spider-Man 2", based on the popular comic series by Steve Ditko and Stan Lee, who appears in a heroic cameo role. Director Sam Raimi and filmmakers make every frame count beginning with a creative art work sequence by Alex Ross that summarizes the previous installment and ending with a great setup for the next installment, due May 4, 2007.

Peter finds great success in his superhero duties, but can't seem to catch a break (or even a snack), as he rides an emotional roller coaster while trying to balance his personal life, attend college and make a living. Peter keeps a high sense of honor, righteousness and admirable heroism that makes him an admirable protagonist an audience can identify with.

His relationship with life long love, MJ (Mary Jane Watson), played by Kirsten Dunst, strains, but the genuine care and honesty remains.

"You're such a mystery," she tells him.

Their honest performances are very natural and sustained, but when Peter can't meet MJ's desires for a closer life, she gets engaged. No chance of a raise from Daily Bugle editor J. Jonah Jameson, well played again by J.K. Simmons, who continues to sling slander at Spidey to sell more newspapers. Of course, friend Harry Osborne resents Peter's job and continues to seek vengeance against Spider-Man.

Peter begins to believe that he's not supposed to have what he wants and needs.

"You're brilliant, but lazy," says Peter's college professor.

"You're a nice guy, but you're not dependable," says Peter's boss Mr. Aziz.

Do nice guys finish last? Not in this case. Peter's steadfast composure and honesty amid all of these personal attacks and life challenges eventually provide the strength he needs to succeed with the busiest life possible.

Wait, I don't think Spider-Man

has enough to do...how about a nemesis to battle against?

In this episode, Dr. Otto Octavius (a.k.a. Dr. Octopus), well played by Alfred Molina ("Maverick", "Species"), fits the bill. He seeks to use fusion to put the power of the sun in the palm of his hand with nanotechnology and AI arms, but the arms end up having a personality of their own.

Raimi uses varied camera techniques throughout the film to produce memorable sequences, including some furiously paced hospital mayhem, great point-of-view shots and a back-and-forth pan technique on a balcony that still surprises even though you probably know what will happen. Unfortunately, previews give away a potentially great surprise sequence in a restaurant.

Fight choreographer Dion Lam and wire technician Yick Tin Hung help create some amazing action sequences where figures fly through the air and maneuver through the urban settings. Many of these scenes surpass what any stuntman could accomplish, so

naturally filmmakers turn to special effects for these action sequences, which are again by John Dykstra. The effects and sets blend seamlessly except for one notable scene when "Doc Oc" finds his lair.

Besides the action, the film provides some great humor. The elevator scene is priceless and Maguire pulls it off so well.

Look for standout supporting roles from Mageina Tovah (TV's "Joan of Arcadia") as the daughter of Peter's landlord, and Raimi movie vet Bruce Campbell. Screenwriter Alvin Sargent, who won Oscars® for "Ordinary People" and "Julia", produces the plot with "screen story" writers Michael Chabon ("Wonder Boys") and the team of Alfred Gough & Miles Millar (both worked on TV's Smallville, "Shanghai Noon" and "Shanghai Knights"). The plot creates great new opportunities while tying up some loose ends, especially a great interior scene

SPIDERMAN, PAGE 8

U.S. BOX OFFICE

Rank/Film	Wks in Release	Wknd Gross
Fahrenheit 9/11	1	\$53.9
White Chicks	1	\$19.7
Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story	2	\$18.8
The Notebook	1	\$13.5
The Terminal	2	\$13
Harry Potter: Azkaban	4	\$11
Shrek 2	6	\$10
Starfield	3	\$7.5
Two Brothers	1	\$6

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Why: Pertinent issues face students with multicultural backgrounds in ways that many may not know of, this publication serves to inform as well as entertain students from all backgrounds.

How: If you know you have something to offer, or perhaps think you can enrich this publication forward all questions and/or concerns to the Editor-in-Chief: Allia J. Miller: alliam@bgnet.bgsu.edu or to the advisor Robert Bortel: rbortel@bgnet.bgsu.edu

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NEW RELEASE HAS POTENTIAL

Matt Hawkins
STAFF REVIEWER

Hard rockers Breaking Benjamin are back with their second studio album "We Are Not Alone" and this time they are destined to become regulars on the modern rock charts.

Their first single "So Cold" has already been tearing up the airwaves and others are soon to follow.

This four-piece band from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania formed in 2000 when guitarist Aaron Fink and bassist Mark James Klepaski quit the band Lifer to team up with vocalist Ben Burnley and drummer Jeremy Hummel. In 2002, they recorded their major label debut, "Saturate" with Hollywood Records, which showcased the bands talent for writing catchy, hard-edged tunes that rocked in every sense of the word. Yet something was missing from this album; a popular radio hit.

"We Are Not Alone", the fol-

low up to their 2002 debut, has this missing ingredient needed to catapult Breaking Benjamin into superstardom. It has real potential to be an even bigger hit with the mainstream crowd, and should spawn at least one future Top 20 hit.

While "Saturate" was filled with cleverly written hard rocking tunes, only the tracks "Polyamorous" and "Skin" received any sort of airplay, which was minimal in comparison to similar bands that came out onto the rock scene at the same time such as Trapt and Seether. It probably did not help that the only true ballad on the album was the hidden track "Forever."

But in "We Are Not Alone", lead singer Ben Burnley shows he also has a talent for singing softer ballads, like tunes such as "Rain" and "Forget It," which were both co-written by Burnley and former Smashing Pumpkins front man Billy Corgan. The soft, melodic tune

"Forget It" is sure to catch attention as a single in the near future and has mainstream potential as a Top 20 multi-format smash hit.

However, this softer side by no means takes away from the pure energy and crunchy guitars that can also be heard on this record. Songs like "Believe" and the powerful but catchy "Breakdown" show that they still have not lost their hard-hitting, metallic edge from the first record.

Other songs such as "Follow" and "Sooner or Later," show the band's dynamic ability of creating extremely catchy cho-

rases with sharp hooks that will get stuck in your head for days. Both are also strong candidates to be released as singles.

This record is just another example of a good rock band maturing into a great one with loads of potential to become big in 2004.

Overall Grade: A



Photo Courtesy of www.hollywoodrecords.go.com
ALBUM RELEASE: Breaking Benjamin releases their second album "We Are Not Alone".



Photographer Name BG News

SUPER HERO SEQUEL: Spiderman (Toby Maguire) is in search of Dr. Otto Octavius (Alfred Molina) in Columbia Pictures' "Spider-Man 2." The movie hit theaters this week.

Dr. Octopus adds a sinister touch

SPIDERMAN, FROM PAGE 7

where Peter talks with his Aunt May.

Returning music composer Danny Elfman adds great impact to the story and the music soundtrack includes songs by Hoobastank, Maroon 5, Train, Yellowcard, The Ataris and Dashboard Confessional.

Filed in California, Chicago and New York City, "Spider-Man

2" comes highly recommended (***/2) and has a rating of PG-13 for action-related violence. If filmmakers continue on this path, the Spidey film trilogy could potentially surpass "The Lord of the Rings" series at the box office. Previews don't give away all the surprises, but you must avoid looking at the cast list before you see the film.

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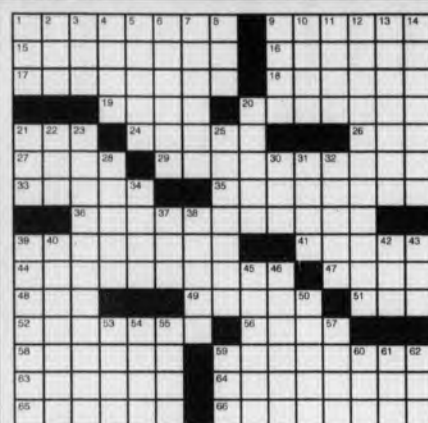
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15 Scraped area
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49¢ APPLE PIE
Our delicious hot apple pie rolled in cinnamon and sugar

\$1.99 SPICY CHICKEN SANDWICH COMBO
A delicious all-white meat Chicken sandwich topped just right with Rally's famous fries and an icy Coke.

49¢ RALLYBURGER®
Our delicious made-to-order burger with all the fixin's. Limit 2 per visit.

2 for \$3 HONEYGRILLED CHICKEN SANDWICH
Delicious all-white meat chicken grilled to perfection with lettuce, tomato and our own honey-mustard sauce.

99¢ CHILI CHEESE FRIES
Rally's famous fries smothered in delicious chili and cheese.

\$3.49 DOUBLE BACON CHEESEBURGER COMBO
A delicious Double Bacon Cheeseburger with Rally's famous fries and an icy Coke.

2 for 99¢ ALL BEEF HOT DOG
Our delicious all-beef hot dogs. What a treat!

\$3.49 PREMIUM CHICKEN BREAST SANDWICH COMBO
A delicious all-white Premium Chicken Breast sandwich served with Rally's famous fries and an icy Coke.



CLASS BEGINS: The class warms up before participating in the day's lessons.

Shobu Aikido of Ohio



Sensei Jay Chikyo of the shobu Aikido dojo in Holland, Ohio, shows his students the way of self defence, and also self development. The dojo is built around a close family-like atmosphere. The art is built around the ability to preserve one's own life while also preserving that of one's opponent. The classes consist of both male and female members, and also have hours set aside for children.

Photos by Will Clark BG News

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT: Above left and right, students perform defensive moves.



TEACHING TIME: Sensei informs the class on upcoming events at the dojo.



KEEPING A CLOSE WATCH: Sensei looks on as moves are done.



FINISHING MOVES: Above and Below, Dojo members finish up on difficult moves in practice.



SHOW THEM HOW: Sensei demonstrates personally how the move should be executed.

